

LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT

TO THE LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

AUGUST 2020

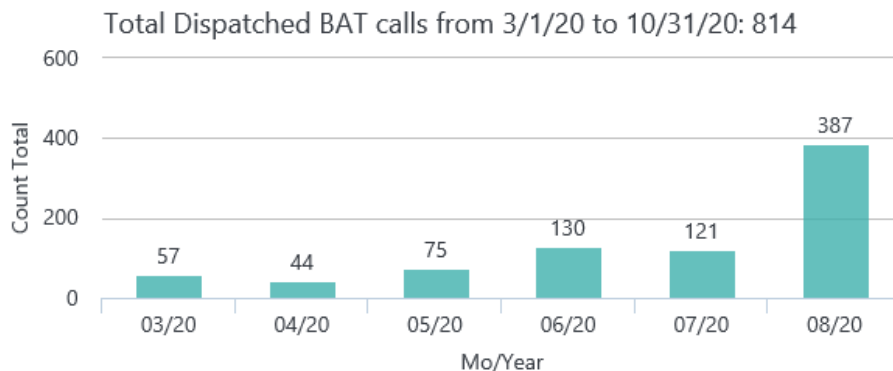
ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control staff are in their busiest month of the season. We have been responding to a variety of calls that include dog bites and attacks, bats, animal neglect and cruelty. The hot weather has not been good for pet owners that leave their pets outside during the day. City Ordinance requires all pet owners to provide adequate water, food and shelter always, owners are also required to obtain needed veterinarian care.

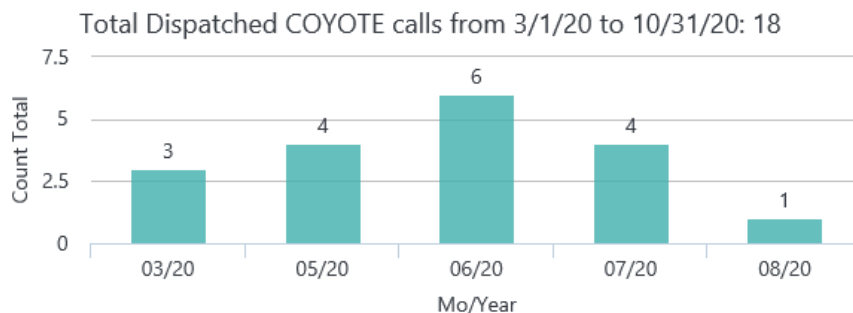
The pandemic has posed some problems with getting those pet owners charged with violations of Lincoln Municipal Codes through the court system. This requires pets to be boarded for extended periods of time especially on cruelty cases.

Below you can see the increase in bat calls dispatched. We also take several bat related calls that do not require Animal Control to dispatch an officer. The added bat calls demand longer hours for the officers.

COUNT OF DISPATCHED BAT CALLS BY MO/YR



COUNT OF DISPATCHED COYOTE CALLS BY MO/YR



The number of coyote calls requiring a dispatched officer have decreased.

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

Although COVID has changed the look of traditional home visiting, our program has continued providing services without interruption. Our team of 19 Home Visitors, including both Public Health Nurses & Community Outreach Specialists, quickly adapted to our new practice of completing home visits virtually. Visits are offered and conducted either by phone call or video (Skype, Facetime, Zoom) for those families with access. Over the past 6 months, since the start of social distancing, our program has received 144 new referrals, conducted 64 intake assessments, and enrolled 54 new families. Staff have provided 2519 virtual home visits to our 274 enrolled families. These numbers are comparable to our pre-pandemic in-home numbers.

The predictability and comfort that a safe and healthy relationship with a home visitor offers to overwhelmed parents is more important than ever right now. Staff use virtual visits to maintain connections, provide support based on current needs, and keep the dynamics of the parent-child relationship central. Regarding virtual visits, one home visitor said, “I have one mom who sets up for facetime just like it's an in-home visit and it feels like we haven't missed a beat.” Another shared, “I was successfully able to do a four-way call in order to help my clients pay their medical bills. For some reason Medicaid kept rejecting the claim, so my clients, Medicaid, Bryan Hospital, and myself were all on the line trying to figure it out (using an interpreter). It took a while, but it felt great afterwards.”

Our evidence-based model, Healthy Families America (HFA), is designed to work with overburdened families who are at-risk for adverse childhood experiences, including child maltreatment. Free, voluntary services are offered prenatally until child turns 3-5 years of age. Our program helps families build resiliency through nurturing relationships, social connections, basic needs, learning about parenting and how children grow, and building social and emotional skills. Home visitors help with family goal planning, establishing medical homes for healthy pregnancy and infant care, and provide screening and referral for developmental delays, substance abuse, mental health, and family violence. Some community benefits include reduced child maltreatment, increased access to medical care and increased immunization rates, and improved school readiness.

DENTAL HEALTH

WIC

Caseload (Participation)

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Total | 3774 (-83 July 2019) | State: 34,300 (+804 July 2019) |
| Main | 2653 (+21) | |
| Cornhusker Clinic | 1121 (-39) | |
| %Enrolled with Benefits | 90.09% | |



Participants by Category/Breastfeeding Information

| | LLCHD | State of Nebraska |
|------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Total Women | 809 (21.4%) | 7,295 (21.3%) |
| Total Children | 2102 (55.7%) | 18,526 (54%) |
| Total Infants | 789 (20.9%) | 7,786 (22.7%) |
| Infants Receiving Breastmilk | 290 (36.8%) | 2,692 (34.6%) |
| Infants Exclusive Breastmilk | 113 (14.3%) | 993 (11.5%) |

Mentoring:

(Number and school)

Students

| | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Interns | Nicole Legler and Casey Fairchild |
| Volunteers | |
| LMEP Residents | Dr. John Price |

WIC QI—No Show Rates:

| | FFY 20 Main Office | FFY 20 North Office | FFY 20 LLCHD Overall |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| <i>October</i> | 19.8% | 17.5% | 19.1% |
| <i>November</i> | 19.9% | 26.7% | 22.1% |
| <i>December</i> | 19.6% | 23.3% | 20.8% |
| <i>January</i> | 21.4% | 20.5% | 21.1% |
| <i>February</i> | 19.0% | 22.8% | 20.3% |
| <i>March</i> | 11.1% | 14.1% | 12.2% |
| <i>April</i> | 9.5% | 14.3% | 11.4% |
| <i>May</i> | 10.5% | 11.5% | 10.9% |
| <i>June</i> | 13.0% | 16.5% | 14.2% |
| <i>July</i> | 14.4% | 17.3% | 15.4% |
| <i>August</i> | | | |
| <i>September</i> | | | |
| <i>Average</i> | 15.8% | 18.5% | 16.8% |

Our July caseload was 3774 (-83 from July 2019 and -18 from June 2020). We had 22 working days in July. BF rates continue to be above those of the state. Our no-show rates are slow starting to climb back up. Due to COVID-19, LLCHD WIC is completing all WIC visits via phone while clients remain at home and will continue to complete appointments this way through September 2020.



DENTAL HEALTH

Dental Clinic Services:

Emergency, Urgent and Limited Routine Dental Care

- Total number of clients served (unduplicated count): 462
- Total number of patient encounters (duplicated client count): 627
- Total number of patient visits (duplicated provider appointments/visits): 911
- Total number of Racial/Ethnic and White non-English speaking patients: 403 (87%)
- Total number of children served: 393 (85%)
- Total number of clients enrolled in Medicaid: 401 (87%)
- Total number of all clients with language barriers: 273 (59%)

(Arabic, Burmese, Chinese, Farsi, French, Karen, Kurdish, Russian, Spanish, Ukranian, Vietnamese, Other)

Thursday evening clinic hours resumed July 16. The dental clinic is open on Thursday evenings until 7:30 p.m.

With equal number of clinic days in June and July, the dental clinic staff saw an additional 124 clients for an additional 219 dental appointments in July when compared to June.

Community outreach activities were suspended during July. Anticipated start up dates for young children's oral health screenings and fluoride varnish applications is tentatively scheduled for August and September.

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Keep Lincoln and Lancaster County Beautiful

Program Goals: Protect human health and the environment by preventing and reducing litter in the city, county, and at area lakes; and preventing illness and disease caused by improper waste management.

Indicator: Maintain a "clean" city and county, maintaining a KAB Community Appearance Index of less than 2.0 (slightly littered). This drives the Keep Lincoln and Lancaster County Beautiful (KLLCB) program to educate the public on the negative consequences of litter and best waste management practices.

FY15: Lincoln Community Appearance Index = 1.2

FY16: Lincoln Community Appearance Index = 1.3

FY17: Lincoln Community Appearance Index = 1.4

FY18: Lincoln Community Appearance Index = 1.4



FY19: Lincoln Community Appearance Index = 1.2

FY20: index unavailable due to precautions taken for COVID-19

The Community Appearance Index is a scoring system designed to help communities visually assess and determine the state of the community in regard to litter and other appearance indicators. Community sites are scored using the following index and calucations are completed: 1 “Minimal or No Litter” 2 “Slightly Littered” 3 “Littered” 4 “Extremely Littered” .



Funding/Source: Grants are sought annually from the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) for the Litter Reduction and Recycling Public Education Program. This is paired with NDEE’s grant for the Litter Reduction and Recycling Cleanup program and the City of Lincoln Neighborhood Association grants.

Strategies/Methods (What we do): KLLCB recruits volunteers and provides grants for community clean-ups and coordinated neighborhood association improvement days. KLLCB coordinates the cleanup of illegal

dump sites in the county and works to educate the community about illegal dumping. KLLCB partners to provide formal education about diverting waste from the landfill in Lincoln Public Schools. KLLCB uses Community Based Social Marketing to influence long-term positive change around best practices for waste management.

Clean Community Report July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020:

Community Appearance Index = index unavailable due to precautions taken for COVID-19

Direct Education = 2,091 people

Volunteers = 656 volunteers logged over 2,622 volunteer hours

proper Disposal = 13,131 pounds of litter, 4,199 pounds of recyclables, and 14,350 pounds of brush

Area Cleaned = 145 miles, 774 acres



Description: KLLCB is a community behavior change program aimed at keeping Lincoln and Lancaster clean, preventing and reducing litter, and assuring good waste management practices. KLLCB uses public education to improve waste-handling practices. The goal is to increase the number of residents who are aware of multiple waste disposal streams, increase their use of non-landfill options and reduce and prevent litter overall. The KLLCB Advisory Committee guides the program. Education and behavior change programs include: clean-up grant coordination; earth wellness festival (reaching nearly 3,000 fifth graders annually); storm water drain marking by volunteers; Firework Litter Prevention Campaign; and cigarette litter prevention.

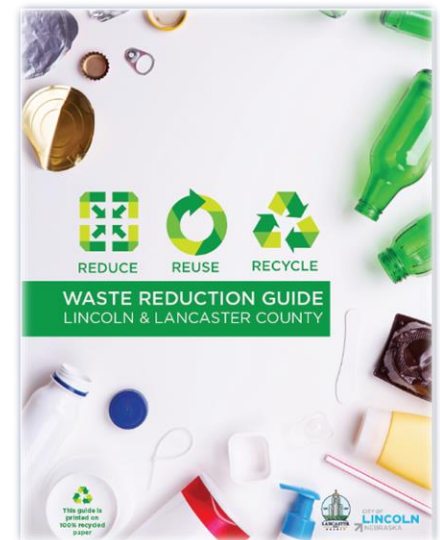


Due to COVID-19, some KLLCB programs were altered in order to follow health directives. For instance, this year's Firework Litter Prevention Campaign shifted from working with the public to partnering with firework vendors to display behavior change posters. KLLCB pivoted Earth Day public education that was to take place in person and instead offered a virtual screening of "The Story of Plastic".

KLLCB proudly produced a new Waste Reduction Guide that was a partner project with Office of Waste Diversion. In an effort to lead

by example, the guide was printed on 100% post-consumer recycled content and intentionally made more "ever green" with content to last for two years.

Partnerships & Efficiencies: KLLCB generated over 2,500 hours of volunteer time this year. By partnering with neighborhoods, schools, universities, community groups, the Downtown Lincoln Association, and municipal waste management stakeholders, and waste management businesses, KLLCB helps keep Lincoln's quality of life high. As an affiliate of the national organization, Keep American Beautiful the program has access to educational and training resources, research reports, and evidence based successful program ideas from across the country.

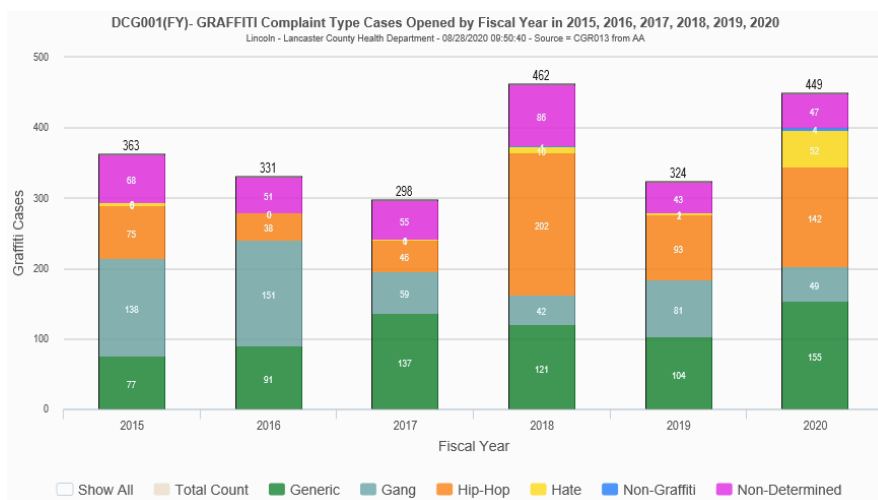


Graffiti Prevention Program

Graffiti is a public nuisance that constitutes a blight and a risk to the health, safety and general welfare of the residents of Lincoln. Unless it is removed in a timely manner, it decreases our feelings of safety, sends the message that nobody cares, attracts other forms of crime and depreciates property values that hurt our neighborhoods and the quality of life we all want in our community.

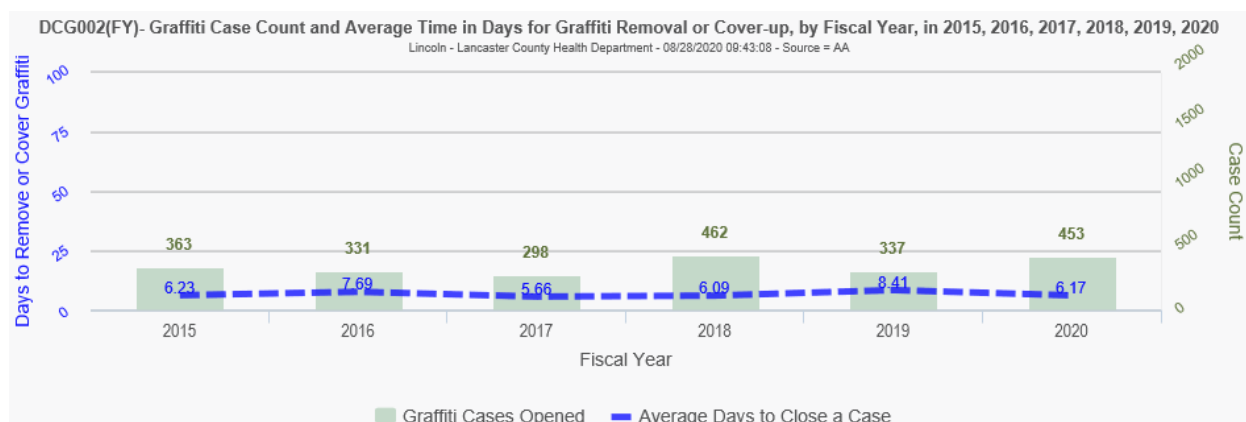
The Keep Lincoln-Lancaster County Beautiful Graffiti Prevention Program's primary focus is to use educational approaches to minimize graffiti in Lincoln by: utilizing a graffiti complaint resolution process; coordinating the delivery of anti-graffiti messages to the community; and initiating community and business owner collaborations and programs that empower Lincoln to address and prevent graffiti.

The cornerstone of the program is the complaint resolution process; the part-time Graffiti Prevention Coordinator documents the graffiti with a photo and enters the complaint into the Accela Automation software. A letter, along with the initial inspection photo, is sent to the property owner advising them of the complaint and of their responsibility to remove the graffiti within 15 days from notification per City Ordinance 8.52. The letter explains the negative impact of graffiti, acknowledges that they are a victim of graffiti vandalism and encourages removal of the graffiti within 24 to 48 hours (often the Graffiti Coordinator has personal contact with the victims explaining the process resulting in improved cooperation and quicker removal now and in the future). If the graffiti has not been removed after seven days, the property owner is contacted. If upon inspection, the graffiti remains after 15 days special intervention options are considered. Only one property has had to be abated by the City in the program's history.



As of August 26th, there were 447 graffiti complaints reported in this fiscal year; a 38% increase from last year. Through the first half of this fiscal year we were on track to only see a slight increase in graffiti complaints. In March, Covid19 created more idle time for would be graffiti vandals resulting in a steady increase in graffiti incidents. Protests lead to an escalation of graffiti incidents during the month of June. There have been significant decreases in graffiti incidents in July and August.

The Mayor's Taking Charge/LNKStat Indicator is to "Ensure the average time for graffiti to be removed or covered is less than 10 days from being reported." In FY20, the average was 6 days.



With continued heightened public awareness in reporting graffiti incidents, rapid graffiti removal, community policing efforts, arrests/referrals and the prosecution of graffiti vandals, graffiti will remain a manageable nuisance for the City. Keep Lincoln-Lancaster County Beautiful program's cornerstone is that community improvement occurs through individual engagement.

HEALTH PROMOTION & OUTREACH

CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION

- Staff has been participating in a series of meetings with Transportation and Utilities, Planning, LPS, UNL Professors, LPD officers, LF&R officers, and a facilitator over a course of meetings to address pedestrian and bicycle issues from across the City. LLCHD will assist in the rollout of education activities at 4 to 8 pilot schools next year. Safe Kids Lincoln Lancaster County is looking at focusing this year's "International Walk your Child to School Day" at one of the pilot schools.
- Men's and Women's Health Hub – Completed 26 health coaching sessions. Staff has been utilizing new tools to connect with clients during this pandemic time using some free web-based calling/texting applications e.g. WhatsApp and Viber as alternative ways for regular paid phone services as needed.
- It was announced the week of August 10 that the Electric Scooter Rental program will have a soft rollout of scooters on September 1 and will have an educational event on Saturday, August 29 near the Farmer's Market in the Haymarket.

TOBACCO

- Staff delivered signage in four languages to Community Crops use at 10 locations.
- Staff met with Waverly Parks delivered Play Tobacco Free signage.



for
and

INJURY PREVENTION

- Staff conducted a Child Care Transportation Training on August 13th. A total of 8 childcare staff attended the training and received certificates.
- Staff met with Sarah Mason, LLCHD Environmental Health Educator about Safe Kids and KLLCB collaborating on a car seat recycling project. Tracy's Collision Center has ceased taking seats for recycling. Sarah is including this recycling partnership in a DEQ funding proposal to be implemented in January 2021.

EMPLOYEE WELLNESS

- HeartAware screenings provided by Bryan Health resumed in July, serving 62 City/County employees. On Tuesday, July 21, 30 employees participated at the City-County Building. On Wednesday, July 22, 21 employees participated at LLCHD, and on Thursday, July 23, 12 employees participated at LLCHD.
- The Summer Slim Down virtual workshop concluded July 30, and 49 employees participated in one of four sessions offered weekly over eight weeks.
- Another virtual wellness program launched August 11 – “Wellbeing Workshops.” This is a five-week series going in-depth on the nine dimensions of wellness – physical, emotional, interpersonal/social, financial, cultural, spiritual, cultural, intellectual, and occupational.

PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATICS & PLANNING

- Epidemiology continues to maintain the COVID19 dashboard and the dial.
- Information Management – the inventory application is in production and being used by Logistics.
- Communicable Disease is fully engaged in COVID19: investigations, consultation for health care providers and contact tracing. TB case work is being maintained. We are currently interviewing individuals for the 2 new Public Health Nurse II positions.